

Behavioral Health Advisory Council

2104 W. Laburnum Ave

Richmond, VA 23227

June 17th, 2015

I. Attendance

Present: Katharine Hunter, Livia Jansen, Margaret Anne Lane, Rhonda Thissen, Kathleen Levenston, Ron Pritchard, Anne Edgerton, Megan Hodges, Bonnie Neighbour, Larry Almarode, Jane Ellis, Robin Hairfield, Betsy Lalla, Lynn Lull, Lynn DelaMer, Amanda Rode

Absent: Sherry Confer, Catharine Harrison, Dev Nair, Patricia Parham, William Williams, Anthony Duncan, David Conley, Denise Thomas-Brown, Jenny Heilborn, Elizabeth Drapen, William Hart, Becky Sterling, Mary Aab, Shatada Floyd-White, Lee Peebles, Heather Seaman

II. Guests

Sarah Rudden, Tisha Parson

III. Opening of Business

Jane Ellis called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

IV. Welcome, Introductions, Public Comment

Introductions were made around the room. Ron Pritchard announced VSIAS conference in July 13-15 still open for early-bird registration.

V. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Council reviewed the minutes for previous meetings in March and April and one correction was requested. Ron Pritchard motioned for the approval of the minutes with these corrections, Lynn Lull seconded, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

VI. Financial Update

Anne Edgerton gave the financial update to the Council. There are funds still to be spent. She requested suggestions for expenditures, and Council members agreed that any unspent funds by June 30th will be used to purchase more recovery dolls. Members were instructed to send conference registration funding requests to BHACinfo@mhav.org before June 30th.

VII. DBHDS Update

Margaret Anne Lane stated we should include a review of the block grant on the agenda for the next meeting; she will send the link ahead of time. The MH/SA block grant application is due September 1st.

Katharine Hunter reported that the Department received two million for children's psychiatry and residential services. Also, the Transformation teams met in April and May.

Rhonda Thissen stated that there will be a state training for Mental Health First Aid and the state will also be training trainers. DBHDS was selected to participate in "Zero Suicide" which is a National strategy to prevent suicide. There is a survey being distributed around the state for individuals who have had experience with the ECO/TDO process in Virginia. Based on answers given, the survey assesses what the experience feels like and who needs to be on the team during the process. DBHDS applied for funding to create an adolescent substance abuse services improvement planning team. It is a two year planning process and funding is available to apply for implementation of plan during planning phase. The state is waiting for formal approval of a cooperative agreement to benefit homeless individuals with serious mental illness and substance abuse challenges. There is a two year planning phase for the state to develop standards for certified community behavioral health centers to improve Medicaid funding for behavioral health services, and to add primary care to behavioral health.

VIII. Coordinated Specialty Care Presentation and Anti-Stigma Discussion

Rhonda Thissen presented the Council with an overview of Coordinated Specialty Care. The power point will be made available to the Council.

The Council worked through lunch and discussed how to develop an Anti-Stigma campaign. The campaign would be directed towards the general public. It was decided an Anti-Stigma task force would be created. Ron Pritchard will be the head of the task force which includes: Lynn DeLaMer, Rhonda Thissen, Robin Hairfield, Lynn Lull and Bonnie Neighbour. Rhonda suggested we ask Dev Nair and Denise Thomas-Brown to participate. Rhonda also stated that she talked with Jim Martinez about finding funds to support this campaign; he approved. Amanda Rode offered to create and manage a Facebook account for the campaign.

IX. Community Transition Presentation

Tisha Parson, Henrico Coordinated Specialty care team lead, presented the Council with an overview of Community Transition for Adults and Children in Henrico County. The power point will be made available to the Council.

X. Discussion of Council Committees and Committee Membership

Rhonda stated that DBHDS is required to have a Council. The Department wants to give us a role that is meaningful, within the context of what the Council is designed to do. She also stated the Council needs to decide what they want to do, and what they have the capacity to do. It was then discussed that it would be helpful to have someone tell

us what our mandate is, and to re-evaluate our mission before revising the Bylaws. It was decided that Jane Ellis would invite the Commissioner to attend a meeting, or meet with her privately to discuss the Council and what she thinks we are doing. Rhonda found the website for the National Association of Mental Health Planning and Advisory Councils (www.namhpac.org); the website will be distributed to Council members. Council members will research what other states are doing to have a better idea of what the Council wants to do, and we will discuss at the next meeting. A plan of action will be developed in August.

XI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:08pm.